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# THE BELL RINGER



Montgomery Bell Academy

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## SCIENCE OLYMPIANS ADVANCE TO NATIONALS

By John Triplett  
Staff Writer

On that fateful Saturday of April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the MBA Science Olympiad Team once again made history by earning its fifth consecutive state title at the University of Tennessee.

The sheer run of success and ability that the team has shown is impressive in itself. Despite losing many MBA greats such as Adam Bowman, Joe Scherrer, and several other geniuses over the past few years, the team lead by seniors Sam Hurd, Ben Chen, Tarun Mallipeddi, Nilay Patel, Ferriss Bailey and Sam Papel, resisted the urge to start their senior slide a little too early and resiled to once again bring the team to glory.

Participating in a variety of fields of science, each member of the team drew on his knowledge, experience and skill in his events to help give the Big Red Army one more trophy to cheer about. MBA triumphed over USN, Ravenwood High School, White Station and many others. With state championships in four events, second place in five events out of twenty-three, the team dominated the competition.

Despite failing to place in the top six in nine different events, the senior leaders helped the team to persevere through these challenges and continue its winning ways. In describing the success of the team and certain individuals' effect on the victory, Ben Chen explained, "Overall, I was pretty pleased with the way we placed in our events, competed against the other teams, and once again brought home the gold. My fellow members of the Mrs. Qian advisory helped carry on the tradition of the #QianDynasty and dominated the competition, as always is the custom in our advisory." Ben and other members of Mrs. Qian's advisory each pulled more than their own weight and were a force to be reckoned with at the competition.



**MBA SCIENTISTS NAB 5TH CONSECUTIVE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP:** *Carry on the spirit of Adam Bowman*

Although the team had success in many and most areas, some members of the team were not as pleased with their performance as they wanted to be. Matt Miccioli, resident student astronomer and head of the MBA Astronomy Club, garnered a begrudging second place finish in the astronomy event at the competition. He commented on the team's performance and explained his mild displeasure with part of the team's result: "To paraphrase Ray Lewis, I'd say the team was certainly 'pissed off' for greatness, because if not, that means you're okay with being mediocre. And the Big Red Sci Oly squad was never satisfied with mediocrity this season."

These members of the Science Olympiad team also competed at a regional competition in Murfreesboro a few months earlier to qualify for the

state tournament. In order to get to the state competition, the Science Olympiad competed in a regional competition at MTSU and won it to advance to the next round. With another state championship under its belt, the team will attend the Science Olympiad National Tournament in May for the fifth year in a row. The University of Central Florida in Orlando, FL is hosting the tournament this year. These competitions consist of many teams from various schools which all compete in about twenty-three events with two or three people to each event. The team with the lowest overall combined score wins the competition.

Many of the members of the MBA team have been competing in these events for a number of years now, for a Junior School Science Olympiad team serves as a good training ground for future stars of the high school Science

Olympiad team. Fittingly, this experience has been one of the key factors in MBA's recent success in Science Olympiad despite the loss of many valuable team members with last year's graduating class moving on from MBA.

Tarun Mallipeddi, making a few remarks regarding the team's victory and the circumstances surrounding it, explained, "The team managed to put together a strong all-around effort through all areas of events despite losing arguably the best class in recent history."

One person who will particularly be missed on the Science Olympiad team next year is Commander Carr. His dedication to the Science Olympiad team has been astounding, and he has truly helped to elevate the program to its current level. His willingness to help students with their events and provide useful advice to team members has

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Pulitzer spins in his grave



# SAT changes raise concerns about standardized testing

By Michael Milam  
Staff Bubble-filler

The SAT, one of the oldest and most important standardized tests in the US, is about to undergo major changes.

Starting in the spring of 2016, the SAT will be receiving a drastic makeover. The College Board is seeking to make the SAT more applicable to college admissions by testing skills more pertinent to college studies and the real world.

The test will be returning to the 1600 scale, and the essay section will be optional for students who do apply to schools that require it. In addition, the open essay questions are being replaced with an analytical essay about a text given on the exam, similar to themes done at MBA. The goal of the new essay format is to test students on the kind of essay writing that they will most likely use in college.

One of the traditional sections on the SAT has been the vocabulary section within the Reading portion. This portion will now ask questions about more common words and their use in context. As a result, the SAT will test more reading comprehension than the number of words a student can memorize.

The Reading section has also been changed so that there is a larger focus on evidence-based arguments. Students will be asked to find sentences in the passages to support their answers on certain questions and will be asked to edit and order paragraphs for coherence. The College Board has also decided to vary the texts much more, including using historical essays, scientific journals and fictional stories. They hope that this method will test students on analyzing a wider range of documents and will better evaluate students.

In an effort to support global conversation about liberty and human rights, the organization has also decided to include excerpts from the United States' founding documents or international equivalents that deal with the topic for students to analyze. The section will now even include graphic displays like bar graphs and line charts to test students on their ability to synthesize the texts and charts.

In the new and improved Math section, the SAT will now focus on three core mathematics concepts: "Problem Solving and Data Analysis, the Heart of Algebra, and Passport to Advanced Math." Problem Solving will cover topics like utilization of percentages, ratios and



**COLLEGE BOARD PRESIDENT DAVID COLEMAN:** *Wants you to take every single SAT Subject Test twice*

other "life-related" problems. Algebra will deal with linear equations, while advanced math will cover more advanced equations and the ability to maneuver through them. All previously significant topics, such as Geometry, will still be tested but with less emphasis. The SAT will also now contain problems based more on "real-world" scenarios than on mathematical theory.

One of the biggest changes overall is the removal of penalties for wrong answers on the SAT. This new

policy will allow students to guess without fear of being penalized, allowing students to give their best answers rather than only answering questions they know for sure.

The SAT is making the jump to asking more pertinent questions that will test skills more related to success in college. With these changes, the SAT is transitioning to a more practical stance on standardized testing.

## Annual student-run *Cellophony* concert a resounding success

By Peter Taylor  
Staff Rolling Stone

On April 3rd, 2014, a small but dedicated group of students gathered in Paschall Theater to perform a long-awaited concert. They had all spent many long hours, both in early mornings and late into the nights, practicing for this event, an event that would help define them as musicians here on the Hill. This extravaganza could only be one thing: *Cellophony*, a student-run concert conducted by the Tri-M honor society to benefit the W.O. Smith Music School, a school instructing underprivileged kids in the arts and joys of music.

Leadership was passed on from last year's Cole Harrison to the mighty Kang Huh. Kang effortlessly coordinated the practices and schedules of over a dozen groups and organized the concert into a smoothly-run, well-oiled machine. Senior Chris Burrus took over MC duties, creating smooth transitions by giving each act a perfectly tailored introduction. Mr. Rundberg rounded out *Cellophony*'s leadership as the faculty sponsor.

The night went off with barely a hitch. MBA Sinfonia, under the baton of Mr. Merideth, opened up the concert playing a short piece to get the audience in a good mindset. The concert's jazzy portion was filled by Andrew Porter singing Dean Martin's "Sway" and Caleb Carpenter's and Peter Taylor's rendition of Bing Crosby's "It's Been a Long Long Time." John Triplett astounded everyone with his vocal performance on "Forget You," while Wook Farm wowed the audience with a funky jam session.

MVP of *Cellophony* goes to



**DEAD KING COTTON:** *Harrison Davies seen here without Princeton hat*



**ARMONICO ROCKS THE STAGE:** *Featuring the one-and-only Chris Burrus Caleb Carpenter, who sang in no less than four acts, including "Pusher Lover Girl," and the band Armonico's rendition of Kansas's classic rock song "Carry on Wayward Son," wowed the audience. Si Deane showed us all the meaning of guitar*

and Keon Cleary's rendition of AC/DC's "Highway to Hell" arranged for cello. Peter broke a string in the middle of his solo, but the group finished out the song with even more manic frenzy than anyone expected.

Chris Burrus closed the night with a bang as he sang his original "Stay the Night" with a smooth saxophone solo by funk giant Akeim George.

To wrap the show up, both Chris Burrus and Kang "The Hellish Cellist" Huh thanked the audience for their attendance and commended all the hard work the performers put in.

After this successful concert, raising over \$850 for the W.O. Smith Music School, the bar for future *Cellophonies* has indeed been set very high.



**SI DEANE SHREDS:** *Immaculate guitar work*



# MBA Mock Trial wins citywide acclaim



**MOCK TRIAL BRINGS HOME THE GOLD:** Plans to open Kaplan and Huh Law Firm currently underway

**By Aaron Kaplan**  
Associate Editor

Another school year is almost in the books, and with it another successful run for the MBA Mock Trial program. Both the A and B teams first competed in the city competition from February 8 to March 1. The A team captured the city championship and advanced to the state competition (March 14-15) in which it placed third.

For both teams, this past Mock Trial season looked at first to be one of rebuilding. The B team, having won third place in the city last year but also having lost a number of seniors to graduation, was short on veteran experience. That being said, old pros Chip Evans, Ben Yahnian, Haynes Young and Adam Young stepped up to the plate and led the team into battle. While the squad failed to improve upon last year's finish, the city competition will prove valuable in providing courtroom familiarity to the many first-year members who will carry the team into the future.

The A team found itself in a similar situation. Having lost the five seniors from last year's state runner-up team, the A squad knew it would be a challenge to replicate recent success. But expectations remained the same and the team wanted to win the city championship for the fourth consecutive year. Led by seniors Chris Burrus and Davis Lovvorn, the team also consisted of Clay Andreen, Kang Huh, Aaron Kaplan, Cole

Campbell, Andy Zhu and John Cooper, with Zhu and Cooper being the only two new to Mock Trial.

The team was ably coached by the legendarily successful Wade Cowan, who holds the team to an appropriately high standard. Alum Will Stewart, a former lawyer for the Big Red, was instrumental in helping to prepare the team and filling in as head coach for the city competition weekend. Alums John Mellow and McKay Proctor also paid visits to the team and enjoyed watching the program build upon the success that they had during their Mock Trial careers at MBA.

The Big Red A team entered the city competition unsure of what was to come but confident in its ability to walk away with the four-peat. As the team piled up wins, it was matched up against other winning teams in the next rounds up until the last round, in which the top two teams collided. Having received a first-round bye (an automatic win), the Big Red started off in the winners bracket and didn't look back. The team faced a tough schedule, going up against perennially strong programs at MLK, USN and Harpeth Hall, all of which fell to the Big Red. In the final round of competition, the MBA A team and the Harpeth Hall B team squared off as the best two teams in the competition and MBA won both the round and the whole competition.

Come awards time, the MBA A team emerged as the first place team,



**STYLIN' IN THE COURTROOM:** Ben Yahnian lays down the law before the weights of justice

capping off an undefeated competition and building on the Mock Trial dynasty. The Harpeth Hall B team, whom MBA faced in the final round, finished second (and therefore joined the MBA A team in advancing to the state competition). The Harpeth Hall A team finished third, USN fourth. Adam Young from the B team was named the Best Defense Attorney. Chris Burrus was named MVP of the MBA A team and, in clutch fashion, Ben Yahnian walked right out of the elevator and immediately up to the front to collect the MVP award for the B team.

The A team then had two weeks to prepare for the state competition, which promised to offer the next level of opponent difficulty. Losing Burrus, the team re-arranged witness roles for Campbell and Zhu. The team of seven, five of whom competed on both prosecution and defense, had its eyes set on a state championship, something MBA hadn't achieved since 1995.

Once again, the Big Red faced a tough schedule that first weekend of spring break for the state competition. They went up against Chattanooga Homeschool B and Jefferson County High School the first night and encountered Chattanooga Homeschool A first thing the next morning. Having gone undefeated through the first three rounds, the Big Red fought a close battle against White Station High School in round four. While the Big Red believe they fell victim to subjective judging, they dropped that round and finished with

a record of 3-1.

Come awards time once again, the Big Red were hoping to be announced as one of the two teams competing immediately following the awards ceremony in the state championship round, the round in which MBA lost last year to Kingsport and was deemed state runner-up. Hopes were high as the final rankings were announced in ascending order until the Big Red finished in third, one place away from competing in the final round for the state championship. Aaron Kaplan was named team MVP.

White Station, the team that beat the Big Red in the fourth round, finished undefeated and secured a match against Springfield High School, which was 3-1, like MBA. Because Springfield suffered their one loss in the second round, they received the benefit of being matched up against easier opponents for rounds three and four, which they won and scored easier points/ballots. Points/ballots being the tie-breaker for teams with the same record, Springfield was selected over MBA and ended up defeating White Station to claim the state title.

The Big Red A team will return all but one of their state competition team members and look to make a run at the state championship next year. The program is always looking for new participants and encourages any students interested in law or speaking/presentation/debate/theater in this context to consider joining next year.

## Science Olympiad dominates state, sets aim on National Tournament

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contributed greatly to the current success of the team. Even beyond the Science Olympiad team, Commander Carr has acted as an invaluable part of the MBA community and has imparted much of his knowledge and application of chemistry to the students at MBA. Commander Carr will be sorely missed around the MBA community next year, whether in his chemistry classes or in Science Olympiad competitions.

Overall, the Science Olympiad team has done an amazing job over the past several years of dominating the competitions by going the extra mile to

prepare, build, and work hard outside of school. The team has been able to compete at the national level against the top schools in the country with the help of Commander Carr, Dr. Dickens, and the many other MBA science teachers who help in many different ways. Hopefully, another science teacher will step up to fill the void left by Commander Carr so that the team can continue this streak for years to come. The only thing to do now is to congratulate the team on their great efforts and success and wish them luck at the national competition.



**SAM HURD AND BRINTON HOOVER:** Engineers of the highest caliber



# MALAYSIAN FLIGHT GOES DOWN

## News ratings go up?

By Armand Jhala  
Staff Writer

“Breaking News! Malaysian Flight MH-370 had altitude shifts! Families still grieving for lost loved ones! Drones still find nothing! No more pings are heard!”

This sequence of news coverage was shown about a week ago – nearly 35 days after the plane went missing. Unfortunately, these headlines aren’t news. We had found out about the altitude shifts a few days after the plane went missing. Telling the world that the families are in despair serves no purpose either to the public or to the families themselves. Announcing to the world that our underwater drones have discovered no remnants of the plane should not be on the headline of any news sources. Writing that we have not heard any pings is merely stating the obvious considering the batteries died

nearly two weeks ago.

My opinion on this tragedy should not be taken as a sign of disdain toward the families or our lack of knowledge regarding the whereabouts of the plane; it is simply a scornful view of the media coverage about this disaster. Initially, this event took the world by storm because we had never seen it before. As a society, we’re entranced by mysteries and conspiracies, so it was only natural that this disappearance became a worldwide news stuffer. While the plane went missing, however, Russia was invading Crimea and was threatening to take over the Ukraine as a whole – a real world issue with real world consequences. Personally, I was angered by the scant news coverage given to this massively important invasion, which led to sanctions and Russia’s expulsion from the G8.

The largest news corporations such as CNN or Fox or MSNBC



**COURTNEY LOVE BELIEVES SHE FOUND THE PLANE:** Yoko Ono also claims to have found the Earhart baby

seemed to find the Russian invasion of little worth because viewers were not interested in US-Russia relations. Rather, people were interested in trying to solve this mysterious Malaysian flight disappearance. Conspiracy theories flew in from everywhere, and new information continued to come out from all different sorts of areas – for a little while. After about day 20 of continuous news coverage talking about “where the pings were heard” or “what a brother texted the Malaysian Airline agency,” the stories started to get recycled. For nearly the next 20 days, all we would hear about was just what the preparations for the next search party

would be. The stories became so reused because the Malaysian government released little, and sometimes wrong, information. At that point, it’s easier just to keep the news of the disappearance on the side – which ended up happening because of the South Korean Ferry disaster.

It’s almost become inconceivable for news sources to actually report on vital news. Yes, I realize it is a business and that they must get ratings. But is it so difficult to keep the important issues important? Promoting news that is only used for ratings is for tabloids, not massive news agencies.



**CHECK OUT THAT BLIP:** Hours of coverage leave viewers wondering what else is going on in the world



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AND OWNER OF MOE'S, SAYS:**

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# Students Speak!

## *Obamacare and the future of medicine*

By Ian Scholer  
Staff Writer

On April 1st of this year, President Barack Obama stood behind a podium in the White House Rose Garden to address the nation the day after the deadline to sign up for healthcare using the federal exchanges made possible by his signature piece of legislation, The Affordable Care Act.

Better known as “Obamacare,” this law has lent itself to more public scrutiny and controversy than any other in almost half a century. Last October, the federal government was shut down because of a disagreement between Republicans and Democrats over the proposed spending cuts to the law.

Shortly afterwards, the website for the online federal healthcare exchanges set up by the law completely malfunctioned, a huge setback for the President on the path to reach his goal of 7 million sign-ups. The website soon recovered, but the question remained whether or not Mr. Obama’s original goal could still be reached.

Both of these events sparked even more debate about the merits of the law, but despite more than 50 attempts to repeal or cripple it by the House of Representatives, Obamacare has come out alive from every battle to date.

And so after a relentless, all-hands-on-deck PR campaign urging the American people to sign up, which included The President sitting down for an interview with comedian Zach Galifianakis, Obama proudly announced to the nation that 7.1 million people had signed up, barely



**JOE B AND BARRY O HAD TO REGULATE:** *With healthcare on the road to completion, Obama better switch his mind back into immigration mode eclipsing his goal.*

Throughout his speech, Mr. Obama stressed the economic security provided by healthcare and did not pull punches when addressing his critics on the subject, saying, “In the end, history is not kind to those who would deny Americans their basic economic security.”

Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner, one such critic, begged to differ with the President in a statement, expressing his continuing concern on the effects

of the legislation: “Millions of Americans are seeing their premiums rise, not the lower prices the president promised.”

The number of enrollees reached 8 million when those who started to sign up before the deadline finished the process after being delayed. Only time will tell what the long-term impact of this contentious piece of legislation will be, but it’s fair to say that the debate will rage on for the rest of Mr. Obama’s presidency.

## *Key cards prove less than ideal*

By Douglas Philmont Whitmore  
Staff Writer

MBA is no longer an open campus. While the school boasts its availability to students, teachers, and people within the community, the new security system has put up an invisible wall around the Hill.

It’s obvious that security around the nation has risen because of the recent attacks on public places, including schools and universities. Precautionary measures are intended to ensure the safety of the school. With MBA’s openness to the community, it seems logical to create a security system to prohibit the wrong person from entering one of our buildings. MBA is now addressing this issue, but I believe they’re doing it the wrong way.

The new key cards have proven to be anything but effective. While the object of the card was to keep people out who did not have one, it has been futile. Students and faculty simply open the door for the helpless soul who forgot his key card, and we still let complete strangers come through the doors without a second thought. MBA has not told students or teachers what to do if we see a stranger trying to enter one of our buildings. We have always been taught to be respectful to guests by holding the door for them as they enter. Are we now supposed to shut the door in the face of someone we don’t recognize? Any person wanting to do harm to the school could realize that the doors will be opened for them. Also, an alarm is supposed to go off when the door has been held open for more than 45 seconds, but no one seems to know what this rather quiet siren is actually doing. Why is there even an alarm on the door in the first place? To scare away an intruder? I’m sure that this is just another feature of the security system that has become useless and serves no purpose.

The sensors on the doors are incredibly sensitive to any motion from the inside. In fact, it is so easy to trigger the motion detector that a few smart people have folded up a piece of paper and slid it between the doors to activate the other side. Even though this trick does not work all the time, the security system has been rendered nearly useless. Furthermore, why should there even be a motion detector from the inside that unlocks the door?

Once a person gets within several feet of the door, it will unlock and allow the person from the outside to enter. That completely defeats the purpose of gaining access with the key card.

Within three weeks of receiving it, my key card has already broken. I can speak for many other people on campus by saying that the attachments to the card were shoddy. The handy clip that could hook onto one’s belt loop has fallen off for many students. The string has detached from the inner wheel for others. Most people have given up and made it into a necklace, put it in their wallet, or have not spent the wasted 10 dollars to replace it. It’s as if MBA is going for planned obsolescence, making money off students having to pay for a replacement. In addition, the key card can easily fall in the hands of the wrong person. Think about how many times a classmate has successfully stolen a key card from someone else. A stranger could simply take a key card from a teacher or student and enter the buildings with no problem.

MBA decided to set up the locks on only four buildings to start out as a trial run. They protected the gym, Lowry, Massey and of course the New Dining Hall, yet they did not believe that the main entrance to the Ball building was a necessary place to lock up. Think about how many visitors have to come through Ball on a daily basis. Any stranger could walk right through those doors without being noticed. I thought the first place that should have been locked was the front entrance to the oldest building on campus.

Let’s not forget about the lack of protection for the individual rooms. It’s obvious that an intruder can easily gain access to the building, but the real danger lies within the harm that can be caused to each classroom. If anything at all, the classrooms should be the ones that need an access card in order to protect the students and teachers. That way, the teacher of that room can override the security system and lock the handle to the door. What about the danger that can be caused to students and teachers during lunch time and assemblies? The doors to the theater would need an access card when literally hundreds of people are packed into these areas.

What is most frustrating to MBA students



**NOW WITH CUT-YOUR-OWN ANONYMOUS**

**MASKS:** *So you too can fight the good fight* with this new security system is the necessity to control another aspect of the school. Lately, it seems as if the administration wants to expand its control. The backpacks that were causing such a great danger to our safety in the New Dining Hall had to be moved to the left side so it wouldn’t block the exits and entrances. On weekends, students have complained that they can no longer use the football field, the band room, or any of the classrooms without having to jump through several hoops with the security team on campus. Now we have the key cards – another ineffective means of controlling our daily lives at this school.

Considering the highly inconvenient nature of the key cards, there are other options for protecting the school. Some schools have gone with a four digit code to gain entrance to their buildings. This method has more pros than cons because students and teachers would not have to carry an access card, and it keeps intruders out. The best security strategy I’ve heard is using a thumbprint in order to enter. The Michaelhouse School in South Africa has successfully implemented this system, and the administration should consider this idea. Although the thumbprint method would be expensive and take some time to establish, I would ask you to look at the New Dining Hall, Lowry, the parking garage and soccer field. MBA has money and time. A security system is not something to be frugal about. The key card has fallen flat on its face.





# THE BELL RINGER

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## Service or Serve-us Do we work on billable hours?



We live in a competitive age. They say the job market is shrinking. They say the colleges are harder to get into. They say the cost of living is rising and so is the age of retirement. The sky is falling and every man, woman, and dog must tighten his, her, or its belt in order to weather the storm and scrape by into the future. It is with this all-consuming drive towards competition in mind that we turn our focus to the concept of Service.

Service is a big word, a buzz word, a cherished pillar and cornerstone found at the bottom of every company motto that's written in acrostic form. Service rings from every pulpit and podium from California to Maine. It bounces off the walls of every classroom, and echoes at the very core of what we view as essential to morality. But does Service also chime from University towers?

The short, dismissive answer is yes. Yes, it does. Colleges want kids who are "involved in their communities," and "dedicated to a greater good." The concept of Civil Leader fits well with the overall mantra of "Future Leaders of Tomorrow, Today." We can accept on objective terms that Service is an important supplement to any College application without any argument.

Yet Service isn't like ballet or viola. It's not something you can get thrust into as soon as you're able to walk and then carry with you into your adolescence. (Though it's all too easy to imagine future parents recording their child's service hours since birth.) The idea of Service is tied to deeper ideals, ideals that many believe one can only discover at a later age. Service is seen as evidence of a deeper moral understanding, a selflessness and a global awareness that's organic from within the individual.

Let's back up for a second though. Say you don't have any of these deeper ideals. You ask a mediocre violinist why they continue to play, they'll

tell you that it's just "what they just do." The desire to continue exists above all and is born out of an ingrained sense of necessity. I keep playing football because I *have* to. I keep doing gymnastics because I *have* to. I keep making A's because I *have* to. A sense of necessity is the ultimate carrot on a stick dangling before us as we chase it up a winding staircase of endless ambition. Droll, right? But it's what you gotta do.

The problem though, the thing that should trouble us, is that Service is in danger of being thrown into the same rat race as everything else. If we establish a culture of necessity around Service, we invite dispassionate continuation. It's as simple as that. What's worse is that Service, unlike ballet or viola, is not always judged based on quality. Sometimes, it's enough to have weeks' worth of billable hours jotted down. But I digress.

What I'd like to suggest is that we stop quantifying Service, and that we quit strongly urging kids to serve blindly. But how is this different from telling parents not to put their kids in ballet at age two and not to tutor their kids in Japanese in kindergarten? Either we see Service as an objective activity that can be started with a purpose of betterment or we see it as something shimmering and pure that can't be touched by the muddiness of paperwork and applications. In this case, I fear we can't have our cake and eat it too.

Service with any sort of reward or quantification in mind is not Service. It's ballet, and it's viola. It becomes instantaneously a means to an end as soon as it loses its moral purity. The truth is that this isn't a question that can be answered with a policy shift among Universities. The truth is that this is a question of the heart and one that must be answered by the individual. Careful, though. Your answer might cost you a letter of admission.

Do you like to write, take photos or work on graphic design?

**JOIN OUR TEAM!**

Contact: Wells Hamilton, Sam Weien, or Aaron Kaplan if you are interested





## Freshmen make speeches, secure mediocre athletic victories

By Peter Taylor  
*Freshest Freshman*

As the 2013-2014 school year comes to a close, our freshmen do not seem to have grown or evolved much as a class. We're still the same old idiots making the same dumb mistakes.

In the academic world, the usual suspects are doing great, while many of the other "usual suspects" are still struggling. All the freshman English classes have begun reading *The Odyssey*, a book written by the masterful English author Robert Fagles and translated to Greek by some idiot named Homer. Everyone is beginning the traditional oral reports required of freshmen and

meeting some difficulty, especially **Josh Cheng**. Mr. Calico's classes have been enjoying the occasional game of *World of Tanks* on the projector, except for **Frist "Friendly Fire" Allen**, who was given five demerits for "shooting an allied tank and banning the class account for an hour." **Logan "Biology God" Cashwell** recently found a small amount of success in his Honors Biology Class when the last test contained no visuals due to an "unfortunate and accidental" computer malfunction.

Our freshmen have been finding some success in athletics as well as academics. In track, the freshman 4x800 team of **Call "Bill" Bainbridge**, **Mack "Fair-weather Fan" Smithing**, **Joe**

**"Future English Professor" Moxley**, and **Peter "Idiot who Writes these Columns" Taylor** nabbed a victory over Brentwood Academy at the Doug Hall relays. **Tykevius "Bo Jackson" Chandler**, track and baseball dual threat, will at press time have run the Founders Day Race, bringing our class the first freshman victory in the history of the race.

In the world of student government, all of last year's Student Council members were re-elected except for **Peter Taylor**, who was replaced by **Will "Orator" Hansen** after his masterfully written and executed speech. Though **Will Hoffman** was reinstated as our class president, **Jake "Lyndon**

**Johnson" Evans** has secured the presidency for next year. Congratulations also go to **Warner Lamar**, **Vincent Zhang**, and **Michael Lee** for being elected next year's Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. You guys will do great.

On a final note, I must discuss the aftermath of the speech competition, even if it occurred weeks ago. **Andrew "In-it-to-win-it" Kaplan** secured a victory with his speech about healthcare over his fellow finalists **Jed "Hummingbird" Griffin** and **Tony "Bookstore-in-Rural-China" Huang**, who both spoke about resilience. But hey, you need to bounce back.

## Sophomores attempt to break the 5th wall, cause damage in the parking garage

By Werner Bradshaw  
*Saltiest Sophomore*

The end of the year is approaching swiftly, and with it comes the falling of grades and the lifting of trucks for many sophomores.

Recent class officer elections have proved that sap levels are still high but slowly dropping. While most of the grade was busy responding to emails or drivin' down backroads, overachievers like **Adam Young**, **Clark-e Allen** and **Troy Jiang** were busy perfecting speeches that would help them win positions as class officers. **Adam** and **Taylor Asher** had particularly exceptional speeches, leading them to victory yet again over stiff competition.

Perhaps sap levels reached an all time high over spring break. During that week, **Jack King** officially decided to skip junior year altogether and be a senior next year. However, **ConnOr Downey** and **ConnEr Gray** are contemplating staying back a year and joining the Class of 2017. In addition, **Brodie "Karate Chop" Poe** made a new best friend, and **Jack Malone** might have gone skiing.

Spring sports are well underway, and sophomores in all sports are proving that they are the best athletes around. **Russell McGinn** is raising eyebrows with his performance for the shotgun team. **Stephen Richey**, **Hayne Hamilton** and **D'On Coofer** are showing out for the track team. **Winston**

**Hewitt**, **J Scow** and **Glenn Coleman** are dominating on the diamond for the JV Baseball team while **David Gaw**, **Will Allen** and **Cole Cross** are representing the Class of 2016 well for the Varsity Baseball team. Excellence has become a habit for the JV Lacrosse team, as **Sam Smith** and **Jim Garrett** are leading the team to an undefeated season. Similarly, **Jackson Siktberg** and **David Wise** are among many sophomores playing a big role on the Varsity Lacrosse team. In mathletics, **Tony Ding** continues to shine.

As we approach exams, we should all remember that **Yavin Alwis** is there should you need mental or physical support. We love you, **Yavin**.



AS LONG AS J-SCOW IS STILL SMILING: Everything is going to be all right

## Frustra! Juniors Experience Heather Hayes and #DAHJTP

By Owen Powell  
*Juciest Junior*

As many of us have enjoyed a few proms over the past month, there are many high points and low points to reminisce upon. **Jermaine Francis** is planning on a catching a lark (a song bird) and making it sing sweet, sweet songs. **Stephen Sullivan** still denies the beef between him and **Luke Bullock**. **Trevor Patton** "resilled" with his date at Chick-Fil-A.

**Davis Luster** got hooked up on some Vans he bought recently. He says they feel really good on his feet, and that the soles are very soft, but honestly a size or two too big, even for Big D. Shout out to **Jess Darnell** and **Cole Jones** for showing us how to dance. **George Hunt** had a pretty mellow time at the Harpeth Hall prom. In related news, **Jackson Garey** has had some sleeping disorders lately and people should keep him in their prayers.

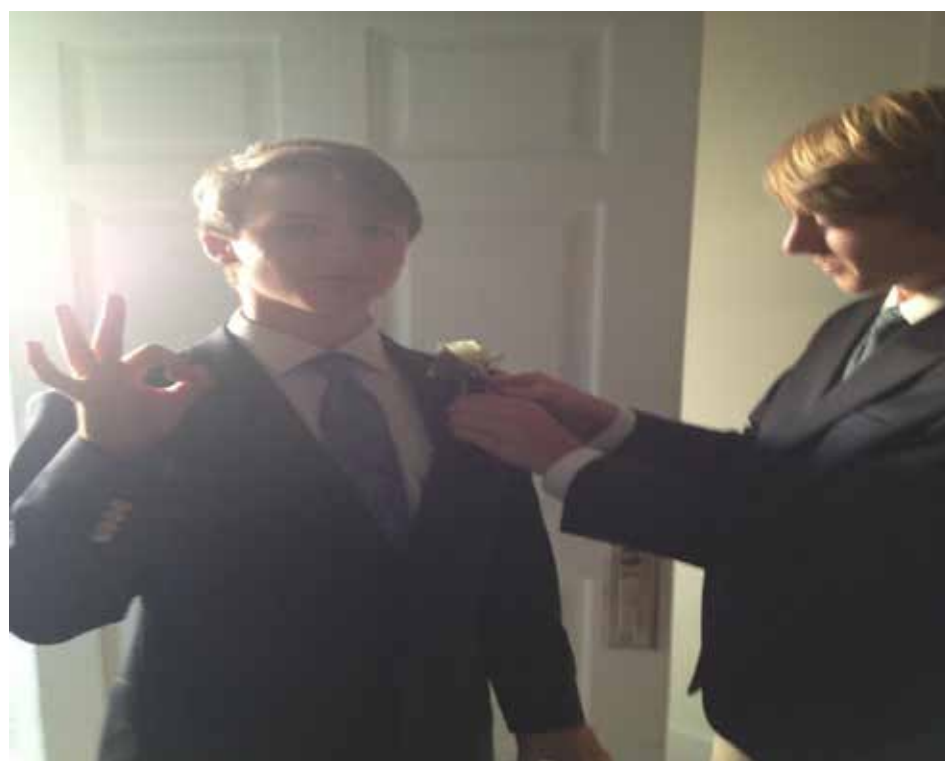
**Pepperoni**, also known as **Luke Bullock**, is the Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete of the month. Not only is he starting to contribute to the track team, but he is doing some good "analisesis" (analysis) for the Physics Bowl team right in the nick of time! This analysis has really put a new pep in his step!

**Geoff "HEY GUYS I'M GEOFF**

**HOLL!" Holland** is apparently rooting for Holland in the 2014 World Cup, because you know, they have the same name. **Dr. Boyd** is the greatest teacher in the entire world. Also, **Jack Goodrum** has apparently been blowing up people's snapchats lately. **Anthony "Tone-nectar" Swenson** and **Bill Leftwich** can't decide if they are perpetually sick, or nah. **Cole Jones** has been confirmed as a founding member of the "HH MBA Update." After news broke, the Twitter page suddenly disappeared. **Chris Estes** had his car's fender broken and tail light knocked out by our very own **BBW**, or **Big Bad Wren**.

Many Juniors have been wondering, "If **Mark** and **Wren** repeatedly take pictures together throwing up signs to the camera, will they become funnier?" Also, **Austin Rolfe** -- oh wait, this is the Junior Class News. **John Hazen**'s been acting pretty nutty lately. It's probably because his beloved Kentucky Wildcats lost.

**William Snow** has been enjoying his Tuesday Breaks lately because we have had no "Users, Abusers, Liars, or Cheats" lately to take away that beloved 30 minute break. **Clay Cavallo** shook it. **Chris Byrne** Lives!! **Haynes "not part of the 3%" Young** ate a Cobb salad with a glass of tea over the weekend.



EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE A-OK: Luke Barrick prepares for prom in a rare, Pre-Prague photo of Steve Wood

Finally, I would love to give a shout out to all of those who stayed true to The Operation #DAHJTP. **Andrew Conwell** was a crucial part to keeping the movement going and kept the crew together. Also another shout out to **Cole**

**Jones** for all the work he did to make prom a fun experience for everyone. **#HypeForFowler, Hughes, Moxley, Holland, and ManyManyMore**. Roll Red, and chew Big Red gum.



# Seniors grow nostalgic, long for King's Island

By Wells Hamilton  
Senior (rrrrr)

Spring shines brightly on the Class of 2014 as seniors ask themselves "Why are they still expecting us to do things?" The slow roll of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter has many wondering if graduation will ever arrive.

But not everyone has their eyes set on the 30<sup>th</sup>. **Jack "Reading Rainbow" Grant** laments that he won't be able to share more time with Stat Master Coach "Seen" Jackson. **Tristan "Salt" Chari** wishes for longer English classes and more time to reflect on the fleeting passage of time. **Ben "Benjamin Hays" Yahnian** is caught longing for more time to make sick, dope vids about whatever.

**Henry "Spelunker" Ingram** is still looking around for new underground adventures to explore. However, these adventures could never be as underground as **Nick "Sublime" Boney's** eclectic music taste. Nick's ambition is unbridled, as he aims to be the first hipster to work at Vineyard Vines. Coworker **Pat "Vineyard Vines" Sanders** commented, "I'm pretty sure Nick's favorite band is Coldplay."

The Senior Class is also still finding time for more micro-revolutions. Three separate pockets of head fashion have emerged, championed by **Tejas "Un Perdador" Reddy**, **Harrison "Princeton 2018" Davies**, and **Braden "1996" Welborn**. Many believe **Tejas** may be preparing to take on the roll of James Bond when the *From Russia with Love*



TRANSFORMATION FRIDAYS: David Spencer makes a dramatic transition from old to new

remake is made. **Braden** is also on the cutting edge of crutch-related fashion, a style pioneered by **Chip "Murphy's Law" Evans**. When asked to comment on this innovation, Chip replied "Dude, shut up. That's literally so stupid."

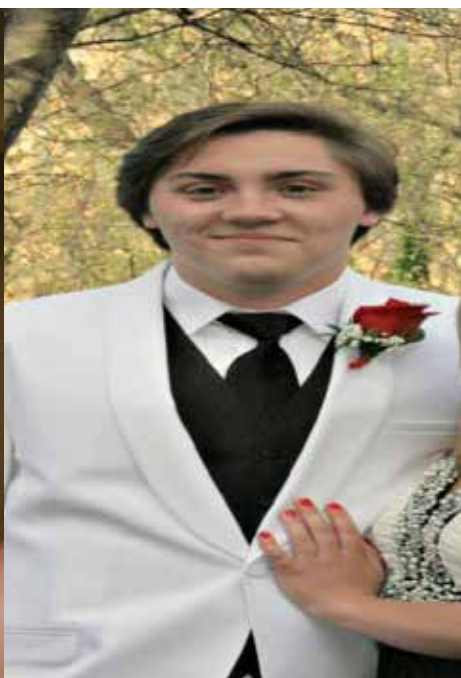
Though it's not all fashion innovation. Many on the rowing team are still trying to find their own unique taste. **Stroud "Harrison Davis Dresses Like Me" McMahan** and **Harrison "Let's All Get Along" Davis** are currently vying for the best dressed crew guy award, with **Sam "Forget about Freshman Year" Gregory** hot on their heels. Meanwhile, **Davis "5 Girls" Lovvorn** is still turning heads with his next level haircut. Keep an eye on **Austin "Who?" Dobbs** though, who can still make moves when you least expect it.

Seniors are also looking forward to many end of the year activities. **Nick "K-Mart" Trogdon** is still looking for someone to wingman him at SCA's prom. Have you guys heard he has a girlfriend?

**Ridley "Spirit" Wills** could not be reached for comment. **Sam "OG ED" Weine** had a blast on the Senior trip to Long Mountain. Talk about dropped calls. (Ha.)

Sports continue to be a strong suit for the Class of 2014. Sources are saying that **David "Meeen" Harrison** is on week 12 of continuously speaking in a Coach Wim's voice. **Russell "Have You Seen My Shoes?" Carpenter** and **Chris "Listening to Jack Johnson" Burrus** are rallying the lacrosse team to persevere through immense injuries. **Drew "Disinfect That Guy" Benson** and **Nick "Van Webb" Obremsky** are still spurring the soccer team towards another run at the State Championship. Meanwhile, **Max "Why Do I Open My Mouth" Katseff** and **Tyler "Elon Musk" Forcum** are holding down the fort in Senior Intramural Basketball.

That's the damage for this time around. 35 days and counting.



TRANSFORMATION FRIDAYS: Nick Trogdon makes the leap into manhood, ditches bowlcut

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TRANSFORMATION FRIDAYS: Because some good things should never change



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# FROM THE HILL TO THE HALL

## THE BELL RINGER INVESTIGATES



By Wells Hamilton

*Wears Sweatpants on Mondays*

Harpeth Hall's day-to-day has always been somewhat of a myth for the average Gentleman-Scholar-Athlete. As young microbes, we all heard the tales of AP Finger Painting, Daycare and roundtable discussions regarding personal feelings. It was all speculation, built largely on boy's school superstition. Usually we just dismissed it, because as far as we were concerned, the world outside the Hill was flat.

So you can understand that I felt a bit like Marco Polo in a '02 Ford 500 as I rolled through the back parking lot looking for a visitor's space. Being unable to find one, I acted quickly and put a damper on someone's morning by promptly jacking their spot (to the owner of 102 I am forever sorry). But now was no time for apologies. This was either a bad omen or continued validation of my inability to read posted directions. Either way, it didn't sit well.

In the main office, I was presented with a visitor's key card as a symbolic gesture of my confirmation. As an MBA student, I know there is nothing more precious in life than one's key card, so I was honored with the presentation. In the morning, it was hard to tell where the green plaid ended and the carpet began because so many students were scattered about the hallways, working and socializing.

There is no daily advisory at the Hall, so I was thrown almost immediately into a desert of AP Calculus. I have never taken Calculus, and I don't plan on ever taking Calculus. However, I was presented with a five-question quiz just like every other student. Knowing I was outmatched, I quickly circled B-A-D B-C and made plans to smuggle the quiz to the boys over in multi-variable to make absolutely certain that this was indeed Calculus and not some intricate, formulaic approach to finger painting. Based on their further analysis, I learned that it was indeed Calculus, and Calculus of the strongest variety.

As a product of the eight periods, fifty minute, every-class-every-day system, it's hard to conceptualize block scheduling. Imagine Mrs. Holmgren decided to have a double lecture period every class, except class would only meet two or three times a week. That's basically how it works. Calculus was so long that even the apprehension of the "oh my gosh



**HE DOESN'T EVEN GO HERE:** *In search of cakes baked with rainbows and smiles*

girls in class" feeling was washed away into the long drone of derivatives and functions. Luckily, I had been conditioned in Resilience and was able to weather the storm. All of the girls were extremely welcoming and made sure that my schedule was the best possible. This was sort of a trend throughout the day, and something I was increasingly thankful for.

Physics, following Calculus, was an out-of-the-frying-pan-into-the-fire type of experience. Again, I was presented with a long string of plug in problems about electricity. But I was out of my element. This was not the cold, sterile Ingram that I had grown to love. This class was like having science in Carter. It was bizarre. Fortunately for me, the teacher allowed us to play with a Tesla Coil about thirty minutes into class. Static electricity was refreshing in comparison to Dr. Carro's free-form labs.

Being only partially involved, I was able transfer classes halfway through to experience another side of science at the Hall. It was in Environmental Science that I met my soul brother/sister, Chili the Chinchilla. Chili and I shared much in common. We were both passengers in this class having to do with *Ishmael*, a novel about ethics and sustainability. However, the class soon transferred into shouts of humanitarianism, as students advocated for the rights of Pangolins and Prairie Chickens (#savethepangolins). Chili made a mad dash for the floor (I'm talking about a literal Chinchilla here—they had a literal pet Chinchilla). I was stranded in my seat, still trying to figure out exactly what a Pangolin is.

Break arrived, and I was shown to the senior quadrangle, where lemonade and goldfish were on sale for charity. I was amazed by the orderliness of it all. People puncture ribs trying to get donuts on the Hill. Goldfish in a Dixie cup was a nice change of pace.

After break, I had a back-to-back of two of the most interesting classes I had at Harpeth Hall, Psychology and AP Euro. Both classes were extremely lively and engaging, focusing on Rorschach Inkblots and Romanticism respectively. They shared a striking similarity to classes on the Hill.

At lunch, I felt hopelessly

lost without MBA's larger-than-life dining hall, but managed to cope anyway. Harpeth Hall also has a portable cart that transports certain lunch items to the senior area (something like a P. Hale Plaza). Lunch was chicken served on a bun, and surprisingly enough, no one lost their minds over chicken patty day.

I ate lunch in Harpeth Hall's senior house, a two room building for senior use only. The house features space to study and socialize, a mini-fridge, couches, and a mural painted by Pablo Picasso featuring several female superheroes. Harpeth Hall's college wall is also in the senior house.

After lunch was Harpeth Hall's "pep rally." I was asked to leave this part out of the article, but I think it deserved mention only for sake of contrast. There was no unruly mob of students. There was not contest between the red headed members of the student body as to how much Gatorade and how many marshmallows could fit in one's mouth on cue to The Police's "Roxanne." There were no "go bananas," no back flips, and no bow ties. Instead, students sat in the bleachers and clapped when the pep leaders called out the names of people who played spring sports. They did, however, have one contest between grades in which someone held a card over the heads and their partner had to act out what was on the card. Other than one pseudo-fascist demonstration by the Sophomore



team, the rally was uneventful.

However, immediately following the rally, there was an impromptu dance party in the senior quad to the tune of "Sk8ter Boi" by Avril Lavigne. I felt like I was in a Disney Channel movie. Needless to say, it was incredible.

My final class was AP English. Now when I walked in and saw four John Green posters on the wall, I was tempted to just check out early. However, I was glad I stayed because the class was discussing *All the Pretty Horses*. Having taken six years of MBA English, I know two things with absolute certainty: every *bildungsroman* ends in disillusionment, and the American Dream is a lie. Equipped with this knowledge, I was prepared for the discussion. What I was not prepared for was an hour and a half of solid, continuous, lively, intricate discussion. The open discussion really encouraged deeper understanding of the text.

Finally, my day was at an end. I said goodbye to all of my many, amazing hosts and left for my car, still positioned in its stolen parking space. After checking the doors for key marks, I got in and headed back to the Hill to process what I witnessed.

Besides the mechanics, the block-scheduling, the different classes, classrooms, genders and whatnot, MBA and Harpeth Hall are not essentially that different. I have no great truth to bring back down Estes Road. School is School, and whether you do it in plaids or you do it in khakis, it's all the same.



**HUNTER S. THOMPSON APPROVES OF GONZO JOURNALISM:** *Also enjoys "Sk8ter Boi"-themed dance parties*



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# SECRET MENU ITEMS SHOCK AND AMAZE

## Hidden culinary delights exposed



**WHAT EVEN IS THAT THING:** Kang Huh reveals the mystery behind secret menu items

**By Kang Huh (formerly known as Armand Jhala)**  
Staff Foodie

In this day and age, the average diner is no longer satisfied with what a restaurant offers on the standard menu. Instead, many are searching for exclusive alternatives found on “secret menus,” an age-old-phenomenon-turned-modern-food-fad.

Contemporary secret menus have their origins in Chinese-American restaurants, where Chinese restaurateurs would provide an Americanized menu for their non-Chinese clientele while providing Chinese clientele with more authentic options. Since then, the secret menu has been adopted in many fast-food restaurants as a sort of reward for regulars and enthusiasts.

The most notable of these restaurants is In-N-Out Burger, a fast food chain based in California, which has 29 secret offerings for those willing to seek them out. Although we don’t have In-N-Out Burger locations (a true shame), some other restaurants around our neck of the woods do offer such clandestine cookery. In order to reveal these secrets, the “Secret Menu Squad,” consisting of Tarun Mallipeddi, Benjamin Chen, Aaron Kaplan and I, used a secret menu source called “Hack the Menu” and embarked on a secret menu adventure.

The first restaurant we went to was Chipotle Mexican Grill. Founded in Colorado by Steve Eells in 1993, Chipotle is now a fast-food powerhouse, primarily serving burritos and tacos. Although Chipotle’s menu is easily “hackable,” one offering has managed to go unnoticed by even its most devoted customers. Known as the “Quesarito,” this dish is essentially a burrito with a plain, cheese quesadilla replacing the traditional tortilla. This 1500-calorie behemoth is a recent creation, first discovered in March of 2013. The Quesarito had been kept on the down-low for a while, but as soon as food bloggers got a hold of its greatness, the Quesarito’s popularity exploded. Answering the hype, we went to try this creation for ourselves at Chipotle’s White Bridge location. Overall, the Quesarito just barely lived up to its reputation. The main issue was that the quesadilla shell was too hastily prepared. The cheese was melted, but wasn’t nearly hot enough to create the desired ooze effect. Instead, the cheese solidified, forming a thick cheese barrier. That being said, the Quesarito still tasted nice, since it was essentially a burrito. As senior Benjamin Chen said, the Quesarito was “tasty, but not melted. 7/10 would consider.” Coming in at a whopping \$11.50, it is advised that you only order the Quesarrito when you’ve got some cash to burn (and a hankering to satisfy).

Next on the journey was Sonic Drive-In, an Oklahoma-based restaurant founded in 1953 as the American road-tripper’s watering hole. Serving up American classics cheap, Sonic’s menu is also customizable, letting customers mix and match drinks. However, Sonic still has its flagship drinks, like the Cherry Limeade. The secret menu consists of riffs on Sonic’s classics; the three most popular drinks are the Sonic Sunrise, which consists of one part Cherry Limeade and one part orange juice; the Purple Sprite, which consists of Sprite and lemonade, blue Powerade, and cranberry juice; and the Dr. Pepper Orgasm, which consists of Dr. Pepper, lemonade and Powerade (and yes, we did order the Dr. Pepper Orgasm by its full name). Overall, the drinks were nothing too out of the ordinary. The Purple Sprite was a letdown, since it tasted vaguely like grape (we still think they just used grape syrup). The Dr. Pepper Orgasm, on the other hand, was interesting. The Dr. Pepper lost a bit of its signature flavor, and the Powerade took that flavor’s place. The Dr. Pepper Orgasm was definitely a group favorite, and provided a good laugh as well. The Sonic Sunrise was also worthwhile. The extra citrus flavors from the orange brought a new dimension to the sweetness of the Cherry Limeade. All of these drinks cost around \$2 each, which makes any of them worth a try. If you want a good laugh, then we suggest you order the Dr. Pepper Orgasm by its full name.

After enjoying the libations at Sonic, we ventured to McDonald’s. McDonald’s is *the* fast food kingpin, with tens of thousands of locations in 121 countries. The McDonald’s secret menu definitely gets credit for having the most creative secret menu titles. The worst part about their secret menu is that not one of the employees knew what any of the secret items were. We tried to order the Land, Sea and Air Burger, the McGangBang, and the Pie McFlurry. Sadly, the ice cream machine was broken, so the Pie McFlurry wasn’t even a possibility. The Land, Sea and Air Burger, which is a Big Mac with additional fish and chicken patties, also faced a similar fate, as the cashier had no idea what the burger was. However, she

did know the McGangBang (formerly known as the “Poor Man’s Big Mac”), which consists of a Big Mac with one beef patty and one chicken filet. Although the McGangBang was entertaining to order, it wasn’t as good as expected. It tasted like a McChicken and a McDougle drunkenly fused together. Overall, the McDonald’s secret menu extravaganza was disappointing, since the staff couldn’t recognize a majority of our orders.

After the disappointing experience at McDonald’s, the Secret Menu Squad stopped by the last location, Starbucks. Essentially the McDonald’s of the coffee chain enterprise, Starbucks has the most expansive list of secret menu items. Still, we were doubtful that any of the workers would know the menu items by heart. To some degree, we were right. The baristas at Starbucks had no knowledge of the ingredients for the secret menu offerings (but knew they existed). Luckily, we weren’t turned away from Starbucks as we were from McDonald’s. Here, we ordered the Twix Frappuccino, which consists of a Caramel Frappuccino with caramel syrup, hazelnut syrup, and “java chips.” The Twix Frappuccino was definitely the most labor-intensive item to make, as our barista ran from one end of the counter to the other just to get each part of the drink right. Living up to its name, the Twix Frappuccino tasted eerily like a Twix candy bar. The Java chips froze so that the chips began to crumble like the cookie inside a Twix bar, while the caramel-hazelnut-coffee tasted like the chocolate and caramel coating in liquid form. Of all of the secret menu offerings, we felt that this one truly lived up to its hype.

Going into the secret menu extravaganza, we were expecting to be blown away by exotic flavors, but ended up underwhelmed. Although it was exhilarating to order the secret menu items, the items themselves didn’t taste special for the most part. If anyone else were to try a secret menu item, I would suggest doing it once for fun, but not on a regular basis. The concept is appetizing, but the experience itself is nothing out of the ordinary. All in all, be prepared for flavor glitches if you try to hack the menu.



**CAN YOU HANDLE THE FLAVOR?:** Sonic’s drink assortment expands even further



**CHIPOTLE’S QUESARITO ASTOUNDS PATRONS:** Ben Chen would definitely consider



## The ballad of lift-kit: Sophomore trucks spark unreal debate, insane competition

By Nolan Spear

10<sup>th</sup> Grade Truck Lord Supreme

Well, Big Red, it's time for a little reflection. The Hill was alive this year: we beat Ensworth in basketball, crushed the soul of Brentwood Academy on the gridiron, laughed at Father Ryan. But here on the Hill, something even bigger emerged. If you paid close enough attention, you probably saw it too. It was the year of the truck.

Seemingly everywhere you turned, there was a new "lifted" truck, bearing the fabled "mud-grapplers," created to slay the rolling hills of Tyne Boulevard at any time of the night. Or maybe you spied a "light bar," a device capable of illuminating the treacherous avenues of Laurelbroke just in time for a "sick" Twitter pic. Or maybe, if you were lucky enough, you raised your ear to the heavens and heard the beckoning call of the rarest of the rare, something so #raw that its existence is still in question: the "train horn."

But what brought about this new infestation? Well, after some serious investigation, we Truck Lords narrowed down the true center of truck culture to one place: the sophomore class, our own group of distinguished gentlemen. Nearly every sophomore became #licensed this past school year, and it is only logical that this new truck uprising is our own doing. You may be skeptical, Big Red, but as Head Truck Lord Supreme, I ask you: How many sophomores do you know that "rep" a truck? If you can name a few off the top of your head, then continue reading. If not, you should probably just turn the page. There's no #beef intended with this special report, as the common mantra states, "money can't buy happiness, but have you ever seen a sad person go mudding in a lifted truck?"

Now, as Truck Lord Supreme, I've taken it upon myself to weed out the sophomore truck princes, and using the investigation of Phelps "Tundra" Gambill, I've figured it out. Many sophomores rep fine whips, and a top-5 list was originally called for, but in the interest of people actually reading the article, only four men were allowed entrance to the hallowed four.

**4. Matthew Robbins** and his black **Nissan Titan**. Getting the list started off, we begin with the extra-long whip

of none other than "**Matthew Robbins/Mrobb**." Sporting some fine blacked-out windows, Matthew loves to rock the "stealth" mode; who knows what truly goes on in there? His ride, which also houses his proud collection of coffee cups, isn't defined by this blacked-out exterior. No, it's the winch that lies on the front of the beast that launched "**Mrobb**" onto the list. Adding a good two feet onto the vehicle, the winch is used pretty much 24/7. Matt frequently uses the appliance's noise to even add a solid backing track to his latest "Wolf Lean" mix on Soundcloud. Speaking of swagging beats, Matt's car rocks an "INSANE" sound system with "UNREAL" bass. So if you're ever looking for a true pool rat with some great beats in his ride, look no further than the Bass King himself, the #4 prince on this list.

**3.** Now, with one truck-god under our belts and many more still left behind, we are forced to move into the true cream of the crop. Following the groundwork of trios like Duncan, Parker and Ginobili, or even Nash, Johnson and D'Antoni, these three run the parking garage like no other. We start this beautiful trio with our #3 icon, **Max Turner** and his **Chevy Silverado**. Max and "Tarzan" have had a rough ride together. About two months ago, I was #blessed enough to take a tour of Bellevue in the beast itself, and Max noted the bumpy ride we experienced, stating it was likely "mud" on the "tires."

My heart was saddened even further to hear that Max had to abandon Tarzan in the shop for repairs; a tear rolled down his cheek as he recalled the car blowing its newly-installed "General Lee Dixie Horn" with such a gut-wrenching tone that he had to be restrained as he attempted to force his way back into the garage, hoping to comfort his "baby." There was light at the end of the tunnel, however. Through the magical intervention of Snapchat Story, I discovered today that Max had "finally got her back." I wished to acquire a comment from Max regarding Tarzan's return and as I questioned his classmates in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, they had no clue of his whereabouts. Even so, with its "2.5 inch leveling (not lift) kit" and "Trail Grapplers," the truck truly carries an emotional bond with Max, and the tales of one boy's love for his truck were enough for him to work his way into the "Big



**SOMETIMES I TAKE THE BOAT TO THE LAKE:** Enough power to tow Lowry Three."

**2.** Oh boy, here we go. We move now into the upper-echelon, trucks so unreal that even members of the senior class have been known to stop and gaze in wonder. At the number two spot (my fingers are trembling in awe as I type this), **Benjamin Graves** holds his own with his **2004 Ford F150**. Once, many moons ago, I was lucky enough to take a seat in the back of this holy chariot and was simply in awe of the sheer power of this hallowed vehicle. To first take in the power of this "beast," the car's interior accessories must be observed in wonder. The car contains multiple mirrors on the inside, including two resting behind the driver's headrest. With my lip trembling, I mustered up the courage to ask "Graves" the purpose of these mirrors, and he simply hit me with that million-dollar smoulder, gave me a wink, turned his head to the side and adjusted the holy lettuce occupying the back of his head with such grace and authority that only those two mirrors could have provided. Right then and there, I almost passed out.

When we arrived at our destination, I stepped out of this cabin of wonders and took in the rustic exterior of the beast. Catching sight of the Tennessee state flag sticker on the front grille, I could feel my chest hair growing by the second. When the moonlight glinted off the front brush-guard, my soul was filled with the

scent of a duck-stand. And laying my hand on the "KMC XD 'Monster' Black Rims," I was finally overwhelmed by the overall truck power of the Big Red community and passed out into a coma.

Seizing the opportunity to "rip some ched," Ben threw me over one shoulder and carried me into the passenger seat. Going at a steady 80 miles per hour with a visor on his head, varsity lacrosse jacket on his back and a heart filled with gold, he calmly navigated the streets of Belle Meade heading to the MBA lacrosse fields. There he simply placed me in the bed of his truck, and waving the scent of his varsity lacrosse jersey in my face, he revived me with the spirit of a true Lift King. Having experienced this historic series of events, I had no choice but to place Ben high on this Lift List, coming into a close second to "the most Lift King of all."

~~1. Number One Lift King of the sophomore class: Bates O'Neal~~

**1.** Number One Lift King of the sophomore class: **Phelps Gambill** and his **2010 TOYOTA TUNDRA QUAD CAB TRD ROCK WARRIOR**. Was there every any doubt? We Truck Lords Supreme could spend pages and pages of this issue detailing the "mud rides" and insane deeds performed by "Shamoo." But alas, Big Red, we do not have the time for these tales, and I must leave you with the blessing of the Truck Lords: Stay Lifted. Roll Red.

## Spring on the water: Outdoorsing tips for fishing the lakes and rivers

By Mark Floyd

Staff Outdoorsman

With water temperatures nearing the 60 degree mark, bass and other freshwater gamefish are moving into the shallows to spawn. Usually larger bass tend to get on bed early, followed by the rest of the smaller bass. Fishing for these large fish on bed can be a great challenge and very rewarding.

The most effective way to fish during the spawn is by sight fishing. Using a good pair of polarized sunglasses, scan shallow coves for lighter spots on the bottom. Some of the best coves have lots of brush and cover. A go-to bait during this time is any kind of brush-hawg, crawfish imitation, or creature bait pitched or flipped with a half ounce to 1 ounce sinker just past the bed, then slowly worked through the bed.

During periods of flooding, fishing flooded timber can be very effective. Sunny days and glassy water make for a successful day of sight fishing. Another fish

moving onto bed are bream. These fish will not be difficult to catch during this time. Fish a cove or rocky bottom looking for them with a live worm or cricket. Once you catch one, anchor and mark the spot where you caught the fish, because there are sure to be many more bedded nearby. Sometimes it's possible to catch 40 or more fish from the same bedding area. The best bait for bream at this time is going to be live worms or crickets, but trout magnets will also usually work with great results.

Another activity to do in the springtime, often overlooked, is bowfishing. Bowfishing is where you use a bow with an arrow that has a line attached to it to shoot fish. When the water warms into the mid-60s, fish like carp and gar will also move into the shallowest parts of the lake to spawn. They also are in many rivers like the Harpeth River, which is full of gar and carp.

The fish are not difficult to find and on the warmest days you are sure to see plenty in the shallows. The best way to shoot them is to simply troll or wade in the shallows in lakes or the holes in rivers and



**LOOK AT THAT INCREDIBLE FISH:** Mark Floyd shows you how to wrangle like a pro

keep an eye out for them. Shooting these fish can be very fun, and can help to remove some invasive species such as Asian Carp which are spreading like wildfire across America's river systems. Gar, so I've heard, can make for great table fare when properly cleaned. An important thing to note is that

gar eggs are very poisonous to humans, so be careful when cleaning them. It's best to look up how to clean a gar or ask someone who does it often.

Whether fishing or bowfishing this spring, you are sure to find plenty of fish in Tennessee's waters!





By Anthony Swenson  
Sports Editor

# SALARIES FOR CO

*The Bell Ringer weighs*

The unionization of the Northwestern University football program is a revolutionary step in the world of college football. With the National Labor Relations Board granting Northwestern the green light to unionize, many concerns have arisen. These football players wish to be treated as full-time employees of the university and receive the benefits of a union. The NCAA is essentially a monopoly because there are very few other routes in which athletes can enter the professional world. The only way to have a fair monopoly is to have a union on the other side.

While one may argue that these student-athletes are merely students who also happen to play a sport, academics are secondary to athletics for many collegiate athletes in the high revenue-generating sports. The NCAA does not even allow players to have outside jobs for pay. Division I collegiate football is a rigorous duty with the players' daily lives dominated by their athletic obligations.

The NCAA has become a multi-billion dollar industry in which the schools, conference chairs, coaches and other corporate positions receive a large chunk of the money, and the players receive tuition, room and board, and textbooks. The NCAA does not even allow for players to profit from selling their autographs, signed merchandise, or any other memorabilia. Notre Dame football signee Alex Bars ('14) states, "I do believe that players should be able to profit off of their own names. It's their name; why can others profit off of it while they themselves can't?"

A situation arose in the summer of 2013 in which former Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel was caught selling autographs, a violation of the NCAA policy. He was suspended for the first half of the season opener against Rice for selling merchandise that he had autographed. Ironically, at the same time, the NCAA was selling Texas A&M merchandise with the number 2 on it, clearly intended to represent Manziel. Similarly, Electronic Arts and the NCAA had teamed up to create an NCAA football game for 21 years which created controversy. EA Sports not only used the players' numbers, weights, heights, and very accurate skill ratings, but also did so without the consent of these players while the athletes were not paid for having their virtual images broadcast. Former UCLA basketball player Ed O'Bannon filed a lawsuit against the NCAA for similar reasons, causing the production of the EA Sports NCAA basketball game to cease in 2010. O'Bannon recognized the fact that the NCAA was wrongly profiting off the likeness of athletes while the same athletes received no compensation. These players should receive pay whenever their likenesses are used without their approval in these situations.

The idea of paying college athletes has sparked many concerns, one being that the larger universities will have

an advantage over the smaller schools. However, bigger schools already have many advantages that are not money-related. For instance, it cannot be denied that the University of Alabama has an advantage over schools such as Boise State or Texas Christian University simply due to its vast resources. In the NFL and other professional sports, teams with larger markets have advantages over those with smaller markets. The New York Yankees, for example, have an advantage over the Tampa Bay Rays simply because they have more resources, especially by generating high local broadcasting fees.

The players should be compensated for risking injury and their futures to play for their universities. The NCAA requires collegiate football players to spend a minimum of three years in school before being eligible to enter the NFL Draft. During these three years, a player's value may decrease or a player may suffer a career-ending injury. An NFL running back's shelf life is low already with some studies reporting that a running back loses value by the age of 27. Nevertheless, the NCAA requires that these players spend at least three of their precious years in college.

But with salaries for the players, regulations must be imposed. Much like the NFL, salary caps must be put in place and players must be paid accurately according to their value and worth. Harvard football signee DJ Mott ('14) explains that "if players were to be paid, the players would be paid solely by the revenues that football brings in." He continues, saying, "if the university starts paying the salaries out of non-football revenues, then I think that there is a problem." A large amount of money is spent on football facilities and treating the players as well as allowed by the rules. Mott expresses his belief and states that other players, too, would rather have less money spent on these facilities and have that money given to the players.

Mott ('14) points out that there are other goals and hopes that the players have that are more important than being paid. He would like to see the union achieve other goals such as "letting the football department pay for the players' medical bills if they get hurt while playing football." He continues to explain that the union will try to change unreasonable rules. For instance, during breakfast, the football department was at one time allowed to provide bagels or cream cheese for the players, but not both.

The union would be beneficial for players and a reasonable solution for the problems in the NCAA. As a multi-billion dollar industry, the NCAA should be paying its athletes. The game that America knows and loves is not becoming any more corrupt than it already is. The system would not be unfair in paying the hard-working athletes a deserved salary and granting them endorsements and the ability to sell merchandise with their names on it. The NCAA should keep the best interests of the players in mind and provide them with fair compensation for their efforts.



**FIERCE DEBATE ARISES OVER WHETHER OR NOT COLLEGE ATHLETES SHOULD**



**JOHNNY FOOTBALL JUST WANTS TO MAKE A BUCK:** Manziel becomes the poster boy for paying College Athletes.



**KAIN COLTER ADVOCATES FOR FAIRNESS:** Calls on players to come together and unionize



# COLLEGE ATHLETES

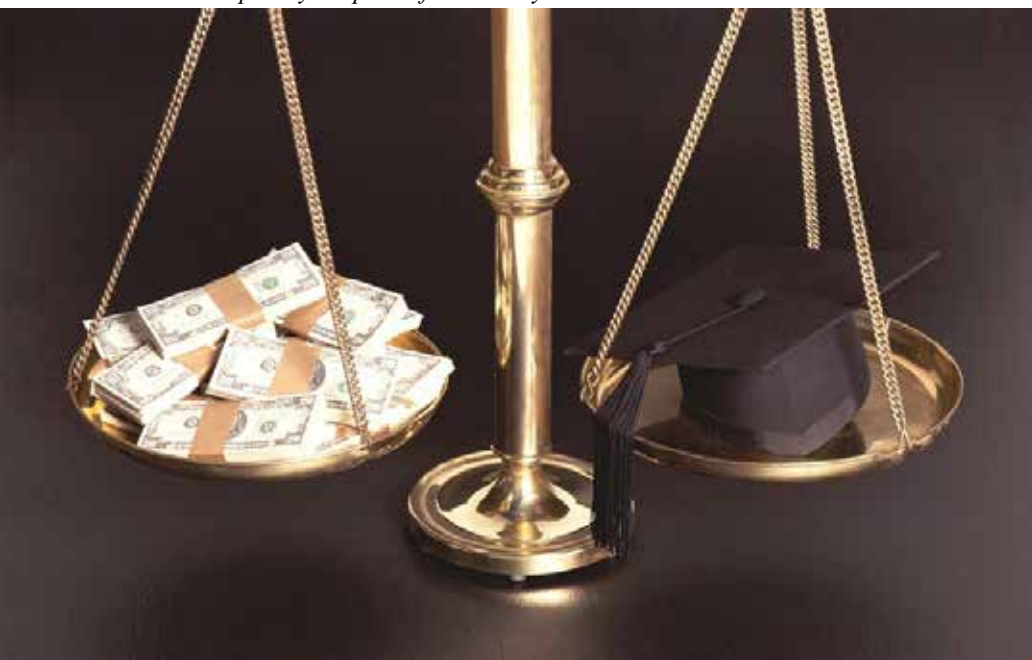
## the Pros and Cons



**NOT BE PAID FOR PLAYING:** *Cries of injustice and over-justice fill the air*



**IT'S LIKE USING YOUR FACE AS A BRAND AND THEN SOMEONE ELSE SELLING THAT BRAND:** *Except they keep all of the money*



**HOW MUCH IS A DEGREE IN COMMUNICATIONS REALLY WORTH?:** *Can you be a full time athlete and a full time student?*

**By Davis Lovvorn**  
News Editor

The unionization of the Northwestern University football team is a troubling event for the NCAA. This decision forever changes the landscape and operation of college athletics.

A month ago, the National Labor Relations Board in Chicago ruled that the Northwestern football team is allowed to operate as a union, officially defining their players as employees. Multiple problems can arise from this decision. First, that the decision was ruled in Chicago detracts from the meaning of the ruling. A city with a huge liberal leaning and history of supporting labor unions, Chicago, where Northwestern University is located, was expected to rule in favor of the football players. Also, college athletes are simply not employees. The primary purpose of college is the education. College athletes are, first and foremost, students. Therefore, the sport they play is nothing more than an extra-curricular activity done to enrich the student's experience at the university.

Additionally, the notion that college athletes are not paid is completely false. School expenses on tuition alone can rise above sixty thousand dollars per year. Universities pay most student-athletes by paying their tuition, books and room and board. Also, these same student-athletes receive free meal plans, free medical care and exposure to the professional organizations that could hire them in the future. All these intangible factors increase a student-athlete's benefits to well above the salary of the average American. College athletes are living a life that will provide them with an education and job training after sports and that will leave most debt-free upon graduating from college.

Paying college athletes would detract from the competition that makes the NCAA great. Instead of going to the schools that would provide a high-quality education or a program tailored to the needs of the specific athlete, players would go to the schools where they could get paid the most. Consider the University of Texas and the University of Alabama, the two schools that generate the most sports revenue. Although these schools get many top recruits anyway, even more athletes, attracted by the pretty penny that these schools would offer, would gravitate towards the top schools, leading to the formation of super-teams that would win championships year after year.

Now consider schools such as North Dakota State, which has won multiple Division III football championships and made a well-publicized run in the NCAA men's basketball tournament. In 2012, NDSU finished 127<sup>th</sup> in total sports revenue. Imagine the consequences of paying

athletes based on revenue. Not only would this scenario generate less competition, but interest for the sport would also decrease as fans become uninterested by match-ups with predictable results. Teams like North Dakota State would disappear from the radar, with their athletes looking to find schools with higher revenue, eliminating the so-called Cinderella stories that sports fans love. Theoretically, this would cause school revenue to go down, decreasing benefits for the school to improve facilities, thus taking away from the well-being of the athlete.

Also, public schools would be given an unfair advantage over private schools. Most public schools, with the notable exception of Texas and Ohio State, two schools in the top five of total sports revenue, receive government subsidies for their sports programs. Taxpayer dollars would go to fund student-athletes, creating holes in the budgets of financially-strapped states such as California that have a high demand for college athletics, with perennial successes such as UCLA and California dominating the market.

Now consider private schools, such as Baylor, Duke and USC, which do not receive government funding. These private schools would be put at a recruiting disadvantage because they are not funded by the government, which could otherwise step in and offer more money to certain players. Rivalries between public and private schools within miles of each other, such as the North Carolina/Duke basketball rivalry and the UCLA/USC football rivalry, could soon be in favor of the public schools, which would offer their government-funded dollars to players being recruited—players who would choose the public school because of monetary incentives. These intense rivalries, which have added to the glory of college athletics, could soon be diminished.

Many proponents of paying college athletes claim that the current system of the NCAA is unfair. They say that schools profit off players who receive none of the benefits. These claims are patently false. Not only do these players each receive up to the equivalent of a six-figure salary through tuition and benefits; they also receive the value of a college education that can get them future jobs. Finally, the system would become even more unfair if players were paid. Teams with lower sports revenue would be shuttered out of competition for recruits, leaving room for a few teams with extraordinarily high revenues to succeed. If the NCAA wishes to keep the interest of its fans, it should disallow the union and not pay its players any more than a full scholarship with tuition, housing, food and benefits.



# BIG RED LACROSSE ROLLS ON, EYES SET ON STATE

By Richard Thornton  
Staff Writer

Big Red Lacrosse has gotten off to an outstanding start this season, and as of April 22 was sitting at 10-4 with four games remaining. Led by captains **Samuel Bamigboye ('14)**, **Russell Carpenter ('14)**, **Sam Harwell ('14)** and **Bailey Perrone ('14)**, the Big Red has won key victories over McCallie, Trinity and St. Xavier.

Against Trinity, the team showed its resilience by coming from four goals down to win the match by a score of 9-6. **Russell Carpenter ('14)** and **Jacob Kovick ('17)** dominated face-offs, and goalie **David Wise ('16)** anchored the back end. In the St. Xavier game, the Big Red won in overtime on an impressive goal from **Grey Reames ('14)** with time expiring.

After these two important wins over Kentucky powerhouses, the Big Red traveled to Maryland for a spring break tournament where they dropped games to St. Mary's and Calverton, each of whom boasted several Division I prospects. After spring break, the team



**GREY REAMES JUMPS FOR A GOAL AGAINST MCCALLIE:** *Bringing some throwback skills from his days at Harding*

defeated two out-of-state teams, Zionsville High School (IN) and Pace Academy (GA). Key contributors in these games included **Sam Harwell ('14)**, **Arthur Churchwell ('15)**, **Benjamin Graves**

**('16)**, **Grey Reames ('14)**, **Will Beasley ('16)** and **Harrison Davies ('14)**.

To begin April, the Big Red defeated McCallie 11-5 with goals from **Arthur Churchwell ('15)**, **Denney**

**Lackey ('14)** and **Chris Burrus ('14)** fueling the victory. The next week, the team defeated Decatur High School (GA) with two clinching goals from **Sam Harwell ('14)**. Following a narrow 7-6 victory over Father Ryan, the Big Red dropped tough games to Ensworth and the defending state champion MUS.

If you haven't made it to any games, **Stephen Ray ('15)** captured the Big Red's early season play in several highlight videos. From **Austin Rolfe's ('15)** two-step to **Chris Burrus' ('14)** celebrations, **Ray** did a great job showing off the Big Red's talent while he (**Ray**) was injured. Fortunately, Ray is back from injury and ready to finish the season strong.

Come cheer on the Big Red in their final home game against Baylor on May 2 at 5:00 before they begin the TSLA playoffs and their quest for a state championship.



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# Salad Days is here: What the cool kids are listening to



**MAC DEMARCO LOOKS LIKE A KID YOU WENT TO HIGH SCHOOL WITH:** *Not this high school, but someone's high school*

By **Diego Martinez**  
Staff Writer

*Salad Days*, Mac Demarco's third official album, though perhaps not very popular according to my Spotify "what friends are listening to" bar, is definitely worth the time of anyone looking to listen to some appetizing tracks.

Much like his previous two collections, *Rock and Roll Night Club* and 2, *Salad Days* exposes some of Mr. Demarco's most intimate feelings on his confusing quest to find both who he truly is and his purpose in the world. I don't know if that's ultimately the point he is attempting to convey with the

album, but these are the all-too-familiar sentiments his smooth tunes bring to mind.

Some songs you cannot miss when checking out the album: "Salad Days," the very mellow yet unavoidably catchy opening to the album; "Blue Boy," whose steady beat will have you bobbing your head reminiscing of your days spent in diapers; "Brother," a captivatingly nostalgic tune that will probably remind you of your brother if you have one; "Let Her Go," undoubtedly one of my favorite tracks from the entire album and perhaps one of Demarco's all-time best, which will surely have any sensitive listener thinking about a special lady anywhere

from an elementary school crush up to their female companion in current time and space.

On a different note, "Passing out the Pieces" presents a curiously fresh, almost festive psychedelic sound which stands out from the rest of the album. Though the song fills you up with an unshakably melancholy sensation, it somehow manages to cancel this feeling out with a strangely reassuring sense of carelessness and comfort.

"Chamber of Reflection," another one of Demarco's all-time highlights, presents some, if not THE, most profound messages to be heard throughout the album. Mac ensnares the listener's mind and transports it into his own—a mind usually dominated

by trivial thoughts and a cheerful outlook yet at times filled with overcast emotions and overwhelmingly dismal uncertainty of the future. All the same, it is a fantastic song and an incredible accomplishment which truly displays Mac's ever-improving mastery not only in playing the guitar and singing but in crafting lyrics more than worthy of many a music fanatic's contemplation.

Finally, "Go Easy" and "Jonny's Odyssey" conclude the album with the characteristic simplicity and pleasant catchiness which define Mac Demarco. Though I may have listed pretty much all of the songs on the album as "cannot miss," they all truly do deserve a listen from ears looking for a swell time.



**DUMPSTER GUITAR BRINGS JOY TO THOUSANDS:** *Pitchfork still hasn't gotten over how cool it is*



# Walking Through Dreams

## Tycho's Latest Album: *Awake*

By Nick Trogdon  
Staff Writer

Describing Tycho or a song by Tycho is kind of like trying to describe a dream right after waking: it's hazy, colorful, and happy, but you just can't seem to put your finger on any exact details. The last album by this San Francisco-native was *Dive*, a record that differs greatly from his latest album—and the hot topic of discussion among music listeners—*Awake*. *Dive* was all over the place in terms of production and sound, and while every song had that hazy, dreamlike quality unique to Tycho, the album didn't speak like a novel; more like a series of short stories. *Awake* is a much more consistent album, one that needs to be listened all the way through rather than one song at a time. So put your sleeping caps on and dive into the metaphysical dream that is Tycho.

The dream opens with the song "Awake," a sort of ironic title for a track that makes you feel like you just fell asleep and the bright sunshine of a dreamy otherworld is shining in your face, the rhythmic strumming and ethereal pads leading you down a path of pure calmness. Little details in the form of guitar riffs fade in and out as you meander through the melodies and drum lines of the opening track. Just as you began to settle in with "Awake" and prepare yourself for a trancelike state of calm, "Montana" jumps in and soars above the metaphorical clouds with a driving drum and guitar duo. It's the most distinctive song of this album; it makes you feel as if you're flying above endless fields of grass as you stare across the horizon into an unknown landscape—a feeling reinforced by the telltale distortion of multiple guitars and synths that characterizes a Tycho song.

Just as soon as you are flying above the stars, the album takes you beneath waves of serene bliss with "L." Opening with a smooth and ethereal blend of guitars and pads, you sail across the sea of sound, and suddenly a breezy and dream pop-like synth organ jumps in and gets the track started; the drums march in from the background as if you've walked into some sort of festival in an undersea palace. The whole track maintains a feeling of aquatic calm, a mellow atmosphere that is not hindered by the next track, "Dye." As you emerge from the undersea world of "L," you walk on land to a jamboree of frantic snare drums and melodious acoustic guitars. As the drums speed up, the guitars slow down, and the track fades into a slow, drifting ballad with a beautiful mix of acoustic and electric instrumentals, accompanied perfectly by a lo-fi beat.

After having been placed in a hazy trance by "L," you find yourself confronted by a strong, driving beat and melody very similar to "Montana." As you walk away from the sleepy acoustic festival, you reach a formidable



**GRASPING AT AN IMPOSSIBLE LANDSCAPE:** *Tycho's latest album inspires feelings of spaciousness and inner peace*

mountain of sound in the form of "See," and after scaling the side of the crystalline mountain you reach the peak—only to fall into a breathtaking soundscape filled with nebulous synths and airy pads. The track invokes a feeling of calm, much like one might feel looking out over a mountain range as the sun rises, eager to continue the day's climb. But as soon as you've reached this trancelike state of calm the atmosphere takes a turn for the experimental, with the track "Apogee," probably the closest you'll get to *Dive*-era Tycho experimentation here. The frantic and choppy drums overshadow the guitars until the break, at which point the synths pop over the horizon like a full moon, and suddenly you are transported to that same field they flew over during "Montana," but now they're walking through it at night, surrounded by the flowers and grass of a dream soon to end.

Many people may or may not know that the last 30 seconds of sleep contains the dream itself, and as such the last two songs of this album contain the feeling and essence of what Tycho is trying to convey. Just as you were calmly walking through twilight fields of grass, you're just as quickly transported to a frantic and abstract space inhabited by guitars and drums and all manner of sounds that really surround your head as you enter the next to last track, "Spectre." This has the most emotional and ethnic sounding guitars in the whole album, and evokes the excitement one gets in the fever pitch of a dream, as the action comes to a climax and you're about to find out what that door leads to—where the hallway ends and the essence of the dream resides. But just like that ever-elusive conclusion to a good dream, Tycho drops the excitement and energy in the last song in favor for a hazy and sleepy track, "Plains." The

track has no drums, and hardly any bass; it is simply Tycho playing you out as you wake up slowly from the euphoric and colorful dream that is *Awake*.

This album is difficult to describe in words, and this review doesn't even come close to doing the

album justice. The only way to really experience this album is to turn off the lights, turn on the headphones, tune in and drop out into a new world of musical experience—an experience sure to both calm and entice the senses.



**TYCHO BRINGS DREAMLIKE SOUNDS AND TRANCE-LIKE RHYTHMS:**  
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# The Glitch Mob Gets Existential with *Love Death Immortality*

By Thomas Marosz  
Staff Writer

*Love Death Immortality* is the highly awaited sophomore album from The Glitch Mob, a group of three heavyweight DJs hailing from Los Angeles. The follow-up to the successful *Drink the Sea*, which drew attention to the Mob through tracks like "Fortune Days" and "Bad Wings," *Love Death Immortality* represents a stylistic transformation three years in the making.

Where *Drink the Sea* floated and wavered, *LDI* kicks and punches, replacing the musical meandering and sense of melodic adventure with bolder, more driving rhythms. Faster in tempo and boasting bigger bass, the new album is more appropriate for energetic concerts than the studying and unwinding with which many came to associate *Drink the Sea*.

In retrospect, the single released in February, "Can't Kill Us," was a clear harbinger of this impending change. Pounding guitar samples, high pitched warbles and absence of vocal sampling characterize the song, a clear artistic departure from the Mob's previous work.

The album kicks off in a similar style, pounding away with the heavyweight "Mind of a Beast." The opening track, although slightly faster paced, is reminiscent of Mob classic "Drive It Like You Stole It." "Becoming Harmonious," the fourth track, is also evocative of "Drink the Sea," weaving

together haunting vocal samples and quiet, *arioso* rhythms.

It's the second and sixth songs, however—"Our Demons" and "Need My Memory Back"—that dominate the first half of the album. Driven by the upbeat vocals of Aja Volkman, the songs are fast-paced, danceable, and instantly memorable.

The excellent vocal sampling continues in my personal favorite track, "Fly by Night Only," featuring Yaarhos. Distinctly combining soulful vocals with a funky beat, "Night Only" will likely be a crowd pleaser throughout the Mob's tour.

"Skytoucher" and "Carry the Sun" reflect the more aggressive tone found in several earlier tracks, but "Beauty of the Unhidden Heart," the final song of the album, represents a complete diversion. The softest and most contemplative song of the album, "Unhidden Heart," serves to draw the album to a close.

*Love Death Immortality* shows the change in focus for The Glitch Mob. More conducive to live shows and loud speakers, the album is more accessible to new listeners. Original fans, though, will likely be disappointed by this shift in focus. Unfortunately, it's no *Drink the Sea*, as it lacks the complexity and finesse of that album. Nevertheless, the album is, without a doubt, still playable for certain occasions. New fans will be more appreciative, with the Mob's sound having aged and evolved into a style more compatible with other acts.



**THE GLITCH MOB DELIVERS HIGH ENERGY SOUND:** Heavyweight tracks and brilliant rhythms



**THIS ISN'T DUBSTEP IS IT?:** *Love Death Immortality* shifts band's focus, brings more sound for live performances

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1 Pizza with Premium Mozzarella Cheese & 2 Toppings, an order of Jet's Bread®, and a Salad  
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# Do you guys watch *Game of Thrones*?

## NEW SEASON KICKS OFF WITH RESOUNDING SUCCESS



**THE SHOW THAT EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT:** *People who read the books still deeply entrenched in their own smugness*

**By Armand Jhala**

*Ned Stark's Illegitimate Offspring*

After coming off its best season, which featured the slaughtering of main characters in a single sequence (the Red Wedding), *Game of Thrones* has some lofty expectations set for it. Since it's a show that clearly has no regard for its title characters or the Stark family (the ones from the North), the Season 4 opener "Two Swords" serves as a nice change of pace that will create a new path for this incredibly imaginative, complicated show.

This episode starts off with Ned Stark's massive broadsword made of Valyrian steel in the hands of his enemy, the Lannisters. Just for reference, Ned is the former King of the North who was killed in the first season. All that was left of Ned's memory was his sword Ice. However, by the end of the first minute of "Two Swords," it has melted down and is owned by a Lannister. The times are changing in Seven Kingdoms.

As a viewer, I can't help but feel that the entire mood of the show has completely shifted ever since the Red Wedding. With a complete lack of Starks (the North) trying to take down the Lannister (Westeros) crown, the series takes a less clashing approach—even Joffrey (the King) notes, "The war is won." Hell, Tywin (Joffrey's grandfather) even says, "The war is over. The king is safe." All we have left of the Stark family are Sansa and Arya, the two daughters of Ned Stark, who don't pose a threat to the Lannisters as of yet (although Arya is getting quite fierce).

While people might not enjoy this change of pace, I believe it's what makes the show so incredibly fascinating. Honestly, besides Middle Earth, the scope and realm of the Seven Kingdoms

is unparalleled—a huge reason why it has such a large viewership and fantastic ratings. We must account for all of the various places in this fantastical world, and we haven't even heard them all. And even with so much going on, the writers are still able to pull out humanistic elements from the characters to create the real drama.

On the other hand, the characters themselves have changed quite a bit, and the entire scope of the story is changing as well. Everyone is getting ready for the Royal Wedding. Jamie is finally back home but not with a warm welcome. Tyrion has to ease things over with Sansa and Shae (whom I just don't really like anymore). Prince Oberyn has come to town (not good news for the Lannisters at all). Daenerys is having dragon problems and some love problems, too. Jon is trying to keep the Night's Watch alive. Also, Ygritte and Tormund meet Styr and the Thenns—a group of creepily awesome cannibals. Last but certainly not least, the Hound and Arya are having lots of fun together.

Just for starters, we can talk a bit about what's going on in Westeros. In preparation for the Royal Wedding, Prince Oberyn has traveled from Dorne to attend this lovely wedding. After having a rather awkward encounter with some Lannisters in a brothel, Oberyn divulges to Tyrion his backstory for coming to Westeros. He wants to avenge the deaths of his sister, niece, and nephew. He actually seems like the only current legitimate threat to the crown. Another major storyline is the change in Jamie's place in the Kingdom. First, Tywin starts taking shots at him, especially about how he can't be in the King's Guard with only one hand. Then, Cersei takes her own shots at him. She says that he "took too long" to come back (she clearly has some

emotional problems). She also utters the most important line of the entire episode: "Everything's changed!" She's never said a truer statement. This line resonates, because everything has in fact changed. And as if that wasn't enough family berating, even Joffrey fires his own shots about Jamie in his history book. You can clearly see how ticked off Jamie is when he talks to Brienne who is quick to point out that "every Lannister I've seen has been a pain in my a\*\*."

Another Lannister problem occurs with the other son, Tyrion. His issues really are not pivotal in this episode at all, but it does allow for the viewer to see how distraught Sansa is over the death of Robb, and how fresh in her memory the Red Wedding is (even though we saw it about a year ago). This moment is one of the special ones in the episode. Yes, we had just seen a few Lannister men be killed, but that does not have an effect on the viewer. What truly moves the viewer is seeing a close-up shot of Sansa talking about what the Lannisters did to her brother's body, and how they sewed his head onto his dire wolf's body. (A quick note if you watched the episode: I really don't like Shae's role in Tyrion's life or in the show itself, so I was happy that she stormed out.)

In another storyline, Daenerys is having some trouble with her dragons, as one of them snaps back at her during feeding time. Jorah calmly tells her that even dragons can't be tamed by their mother. Moreover, the actor playing Daario last season left the show to be in the new *Transporter* movie, so we got a new actor and a relatively new feel for the character. There seems to be more of a flirtatious side from Daario and less from Dany. I prefer this from last season, when Dany would just

quiver at the sight of Daario, but I still feel as though this is the weakest part of the episode. Regardless, Dany is still a favorite character of mine because it is going to be incredible to see how she uses her massive army (and not to mention dragons) to her advantage in trying to take back the crown from the Lannisters.

My second favorite part of the episode was Jon talking with the Night's Watch and the Wildlings meeting the Thenns. First off, when Tormund and Ygritte were talking, there is a clear sense of animosity because Tormund knows that Ygritte did love Jon and probably let him get away. However, he then utters the second best line of the entire episode when he sees Styr: "I fu\*\*\*\*\* hate Thenns." It's a perfect way to get an understanding of these wild men, who are going to team up with Mance. On the other side of the wall, Jon is convincing the Night's Watch about the Wildling plan, and even though they "believe" him, he is still seen as suspicious.

The best part of the episode has to be the ending with the Hound and Arya. It is quite surprising, but this pairing seriously works well (perhaps even better than Tywin and Arya a few seasons ago). Their relationship is a sort of weird father-daughter familiarity that people can relate to though, so it's not uncomfortable. There is pure affection between the two, and it really augments the lovely understandable parts of the show that we can empathize with as viewers, especially since we've grown with Arya since the first season. I love the way the two interact with each other, and the Hound's weird protection over Arya is rather endearing. Long story short, the last bit of the episode pretty much lets the Hound destroy some men as usual, and give Arya a little, yet sweet moment of revenge on Porville. Not only does she get Needle back, but also she gets a pony finally. Plot points aside, it is going to be very interesting to see what this relationship turns out to be.

All in all, with the episode done, I couldn't have really asked for a much better opening. If you haven't watched *Game of Thrones*, I realize that I might have spoiled some for you and it might also sound really complicated, but I urge you to start. Not only is the scope of the show amazing, the characters and motivations all play major factors in what happens. It isn't stupidly produced drama like *Scandal*; the dialogue and action are accurate and well thought out. There are an insane number of dialects. It's a perfect blend of drama, fantasy, and pure "yeah!" moments. Besides *Breaking Bad*, this show is probably my favorite. Although there might be just a few too many storylines going on at the same time, I can't really fault the show at all because it was important to get the characters off on the right track. I loved this episode a lot because there was a lot to love. Can't wait to see more.



# WES ANDERSON GOES BIG WITH *GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL*



**WES ANDERSON BRINGS NAME-BRAND QUALITY TO BREATHTAKING FILMS:** *Second most commonly name-dropped director next to Quentin Tarantino*

By Will Glover  
Entertainment Editor

There are certain films that feel revolutionary: *Do the Right Thing*, *Annie Hall*, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, *Psycho*, *Last Tango in Paris*. Movies at the height of inspiration with something real and vibrant to say. The type of films that forever alter our perception of self and the world around us. You know the feeling: the heavens part and life takes a pause into fleeting moments of understanding.

There is nothing fleeting, however, about Wes Anderson, a filmmaker whose latest flight of fancy induces that same, revelatory feeling in *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. Like most Andersonian stories, the film opens with voiceover, informing the audience of the personal, cultural, and in this case, historical backdrops of the complex and busy storylines. Within the first few moments of the opening, it's clear this is a story within a story within a story.

A young girl visits a statue of a dead author, a writer (Tom Wilkinson) who then narrates a story where his younger self (Jude Law) takes a trip to the Grand Budapest; it's while staying at the hotel that the author meets the owner, Mr. Moustafa (F. Murray Abraham) who recounts his own dubious beginnings as a lobby boy named Zero in the heyday of the Grand Budapest, where he worked under the preposterously whimsical and legendary concierge, Gustave H. (Ralph Fiennes).

In a different, not-so-distant lifetime, Wes Anderson was most likely an Impressionist painter, but at the same time, his electrifying compositions and spirited sense of timing have made him one of our most distinct American auteurs. With that said, it's very easy to dismiss his

films, as some have, as being a series of plush fanfare and overtures with dazzling surfaces yet not much else underneath; for much of Anderson's early career, I would probably agree.

Anderson's beginnings as a filmmaker started with Owen Wilson, with the two co-writing *Bottle Rocket*, *Rushmore*, and cult-favorite *The Royal Tenenbaums*, all of which feature the now-classic Anderson trademark: ensemble casts who talk and play with the vivacity and irony of a Billy Wilder screwball-comedy. These early movies capture what has become Anderson's main subject: eccentric souls who are both sure of themselves and wildly misunderstood by the fanciful worlds in which they live.

It wasn't until 2012's *Moonrise Kingdom*, and now *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, that I was finally hit with the full force of Anderson's genius; just as the early movies found Anderson stretching his legs, he is now working with the full-throated urgency of a man running a marathon.

The heart and soul of *Hotel* lies in the relationship between the lobby boy, Zero, and his boss, concierge Gustave H., the beloved patriarch of the hotel staff and the guests who visit. Zero is young and impressionable and looks up to Gustave, who is exacting and precise in his daily duties, the type of man who treats every person he meets as if they were the only other human in existence. In a delightfully perverse twist, Gustave spends most of his free time charming and seducing the older women who frequent the hotel (think Auntie Em, not so much Mrs. Robinson).

And it's no wonder they find him so appealing: Gustave's clamorous aura is filled with rich and opulent phrasings that he himself never takes

too seriously: "You see, there are still faint glimmers of civilization left in this barbaric slaughterhouse that was once known as humanity. Indeed that's what we provide in our own modest, humble, insignificant... oh, f\*\*\* it."

After the death of his former lover, Gustave is bequeathed a priceless Renaissance painting, and what ensues is a cat-and-mouse goose chase involving hitmen, police, and a few escaped convicts, all at the backdrop of something similar to the Second World War. Yet these cities and continents the characters traverse are all fictional lands of Anderson's whimsy.

Ralph Fiennes, in the central role, is as exuberant and amusingly foul-mouthed as ever, giving the type of

performance that will likely be front and center in the actor's obituary. The rest of the cast is equally distinct, featuring a crew of Anderson regulars: Bill Murray, Edward Norton, Jason Schwartzman, Tilda Swinton, Harvey Keitel and Adrien Brody.

Each of Anderson's scenes is scrupulously composed down to the last blade of grass, creating a reality distinctly Wes Anderson. How rare it is to watch a film so unforgivingly focused, attuned to a heightened and deceptively soulful sense of the world. This is quintessential Anderson, who takes us on an all-night bender of ravishing charm until we leave the movie theater to the jarring reality of the sharp hallway lights.

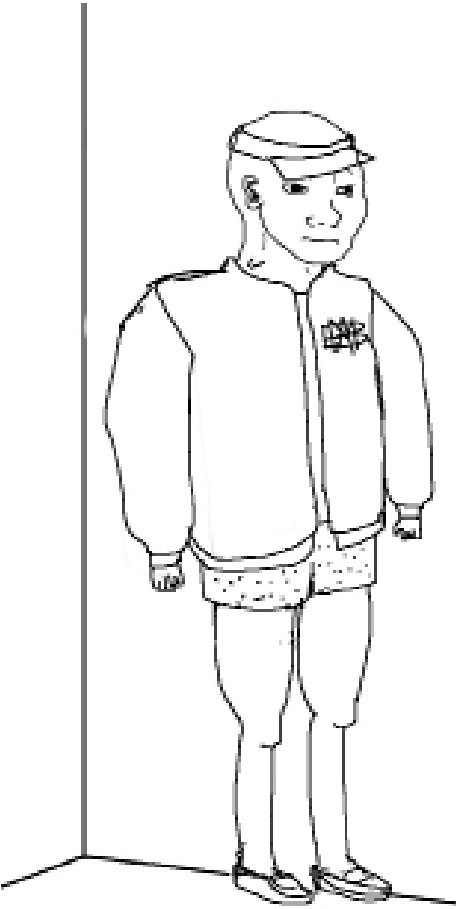


**JACK TRIES TO CALL OFF PROJECT MAYHEM:** *Wait, wait, wrong film*



# THAT FEELING WHEN...

## THE MANY FEELS OF MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY



When all the STEM machines are taken and Brandon makes you fill your own ice bag

When the football team walks in the weight room

When someone says Cafeteria instead of Dining Hall

When it's an either/or

When Mr. Gioia takes off his glasses

When it's a twenty minute delay

When a guest walks in and you don't know whether to stand up or not

When you don't have a belt and you have to wear a sweatshirt all day

When you're the last one screaming during a cheer

When you don't have enough body paint and feel really stupid

When you don't know what started the twitter beef

When Mr. Norton snipes a picture of you and it ends up on the front page of the website

When you see that vaguely familiar Harpeth Hall girl on campus and don't know if you should say hi or not


When you see seniors looking happy and you want them to wipe those dumb smiles off their stupid faces

When the last stall is taken

When you realize there's a class meeting during break

When Mercer beats Duke and you're Davis Lovvorn

When Coach Golenor makes fun of you



When a teacher likes your Facebook post

When your duck boots get dirty and you can't wear them to school

When you have Mandatory Fun

When you realize you haven't filled out any debate workouts

When Coach O'Neal announces another Presidential Fitness Test

When you get called up at a pep rally

When someone else asks the girl you wanted to take to prom

When your voice cracks during an assembly announcement

When Coach Lamb wrote your rowing announcement

When Mrs. Holmgren holds a double lecture period

When there are no cookies at break

When you pay 2.00 for cheese and crackers

When 7<sup>th</sup> graders print ten copies of their theme and the printer runs out of paper

When you have to fill your fine arts credit and you're in Big Red Choir

When you mistake a Sophomore for a foreign exchange student

When Dr. Bailey makes a pun on your name

When you say Mister instead of Doctor

When you get asked to sign a third election petition

When you actually sign three election petitions

You know that feel...

**By the Bell Ringer Staff**  
*People Who Know That Feel*

When someone jacks the last cheese stick right in front of your face

When you forget your keycard and have to wait awkwardly for someone to let you in

When you want a sweatshirt from the lost and found and can only find like, 20 sweatpants

When you see a teacher outside of school

When the drink machine only dispenses water

When you're running the mile and want to 3 lap it but Coach Cheevers is eyeing you down

When you realize you'll never be Dr. Boyd

When you didn't shake his hand

When you hear Coach Brock's voice crack

When your student body president does backflips



DAVIS SHARES FEELS WITH SUBORDINATES: *Drowns sorrow with ambition*



THAT FEEL WHEN BEN YAHNIAN OUTDRESSES YOU: *Felt always*